



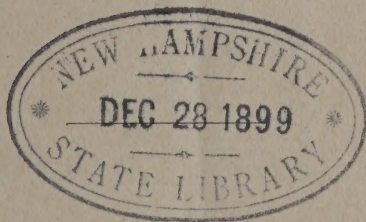
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REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN, TREASURER
AND
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE
TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1885.



BRISTOL, N. H. :
ENTERPRISE POWER PRESS.
1885.



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UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

Report of Treasurer and Selectmen.

The Treasurer and Selectmen credit the town for the year ending March 1, 1885, as follows:

By list of taxes assessed April 1, 1884,	\$2520.46
School-house tax in Dist. No. 1,	10.38
“ “ No. 7,	52.27
“ “ No. 10,	20.88
Dog tax,	31.00
Cash from former treasurer,	386.38
“ H. A. Randolph,	76.00
Int. on Luther Barrett note,	6.00
County for support of poor,	156.00
From State treasurer, bounties paid,	144.00
Railroad tax,	10.28
Savings Bank tax,	259.16
Literary Fund,	52.64
Taxes of 1883,	492.24
Interest on taxes of 1883,	3.94
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	\$4,221.69

Disbursements of Treasurer.

Outstanding bills:

Paid J. A. West, for plank,	\$51.24
Moses F. Morrill, labor on road,	2.00
John Nutting, for plank,	6.43
Roxy Dolloff, note in full,	372.48

Paid Alba O. Dolloff, note in full,	\$34 47
A. P. Carpenter, services on Kimball suit.	125.00
Arvilla F. Barnard, note in full,	65.64
Isaac C. Tilton, on note,	250.00
D. B. Clement, “	250.00
C. M. Barnard, “	210.00
Mary J. Mitchell, “	100 00
Alice B. Nichols, notes in full,	62.55
Thomas Hammond, for powder etc.,	1 00
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	\$1,530 81

Support of Schools.

Paid Mrs. John Brown,	\$35.00
Sylvester Cross,	43.79
Linda B. Hughes,	33.37
David S. Batchelder,	59.32
J. E. S. Fifield,	47.86
John Smith,	69.64
Lorenzo Flanders,	69.24
Robert B. Gilpatric,	30.40
Arthur W. Nichols,	17.40
George W. Martin,	25.24
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	\$458.32

Support of Poor.

Paid for Hezekiah and Sally Heath,	156.00
Lucinda Wiser,	14.25
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	\$170.25

Town Officers' Bills.

Paid J. L. Morrison, S. S. Committee,	\$25.00
S. B. C. Morrison, Town Clerk,	16.00
D. B. Clement, Supervisor,	5.50
D. S. Batchelder, “	4.50
J. L. Morrison, “	2.50
J. F. Morrill, Collector,	34.00

Paid D. B. Clement, jr , Selectman,	\$54.00
G. B. Dolloff, “	25.00
M. M. R. Mitchell, “	28.00
J. S. Morrison,	25.00
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	\$219.50

Highways and Bridges.

Paid J. M. Cross, breaking road in Dicey's Dist.,	5 00
H R. Brown, labor on Berry Hill,	9.00
Orrin C. Morrill, labor in Dist. No. 14,	22.00
S. R. Glover, labor and plank Dist. No. 15,	2.09
J. A. Bartlett, labor on new road,	1.00
S. R. Glover, “ “ “	2.00
T. T. Drake, for plank,	10.00
G. W. Rankins, labor on turnpike,	1.00
Thomas Wyatt, for timber etc.,	3.50
G. B. Dolloff, labor on Berry Hill,	12.00
Uriel Pike, “ and timber on turnpike,	14.69
Richard Brown, breaking new road,	9.39
R. J. Pillsbury, labor on Union bridge,	.75
D. B. Clement, jr., labor, plank, and breaking new road,	10.79
J. S. Morrison, breaking road in Harriman's Dist.,	1.50
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	\$104.71

Miscellaneous Bills.

Paid R. W. Musgrove, printing reports,	12.00
Costs J. Nutting suit,	5.96
J. A. Woodman, school house tax in Dist. No. 1,	10.38
John Smith, “ 7,	52.27
J. H. Clay and S. R. Glover, school house tax in Dist. No. 10,	20.88
Bounties on grasshoppers,	102.50
“ woodchucks,	41.50
County tax,	277.49
State “	276.00
R. W. Musgrove, printing school notices and tax bills,	1.80

Paid C. Woodman, use of water tub,	\$3.00
Fling and Chase, services two years,	92.00
Collector's and surveyor's books, postage, stationery, etc.,	4.02
Returns of births and deaths,	1.25
Selectmen's expenses,	8.40
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	\$909.45

Abatement of Taxes Assessed April 1, 1884.

Frank W. Rogers,	2 00
Alonzo F. Wheeler,	15.36
Laurin C. Tilton, dog tax,	1.00
James Dearborn,	2.00
Moses E. Flanders, poll tax paid in Bristol,	2.00
George Tobine,	1.00
M. M. R. Mitchell, loss of heifer,	.35
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	\$23.71
Abatement of taxes of 1881,	8.40
“ “ 1883,	34.07

RECAPITULATION.

Whole amount received,	\$4,221.69
<i>Paid out.</i>	
Paid outstanding bills,	\$1,530.81
Support of schools,	458.32
“ poor,	170.25
Town Officers' bills,	219.50
Highways and bridges,	104.71
Miscellaneous bills,	909.45
Abatements,	23.71
Non-resident highway tax worked,	30.59
Due on Collector's book,	470.69
Cash in treasury,	303.66
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	\$4,221.69

Demands Against the Town.

Nathan Chapman,	\$375.92
Mary J. Mitchell,	656.62
Hattie M. M. Morrison,	133.57
D. B. Clement.	1,434.97
D. B. Clement, jr.,	323.79
G. F. Fletcher,	147.07
Lydia R. Clement,	183.35
C. M. Barnard,	778.77
Sherburne W. Tilton,	244.87
M. M. R. Mitchell,	249.82
Caleb Whittemore,	447.78
Isaac C. Tilton,	1,030.91
Eliza A. Johnson,	465.49
Almira Huckins,	216.11
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	\$6,689.04

Assets of the Town.

Due on Collector's book of 1882,	2.10
“ “ 1883,	18.12
“ “ 1884,	470.69
from J. M. and J. H. Fogg, on note,	9.17
on T. R. Spiller note,	123.95
“ Luther Barrett “	107.06
from County for support of poor,	62.25
“ C. H. Spiller,	10.00
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	\$803.34
Cash in treasury,	303.66
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Total assets of the town,	\$1,107.00

Demands against the town,	\$6,689.04
Assets of the town,	1,107.00
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	\$5,582.04

Town debt March 1, 1884,	6,487.13
“ “ 1885,	5,582.04
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Debt diminished.	\$905.09

J. S. MORRISON, *Treasurer.*

D. B. CLEMENT, JR.,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
G. B. DOLLOFF,	
M. M. R. MITCHELL,	
	<i>of</i>
	<i>Bridgewater.</i>

Report Supt. School Committee.

DISTRICT No. 1.

The school in this district has been rather unfortunate. It began Oct. 27, with Miss SARAH HOYT, of Lyndon, Vt., as teacher, who kept 7 weeks and then for some reason suddenly left the school. Mr. Sherman Brown, one of the pupils, who wished to take the school in the first place against my advice and wishes, then took it, but after keeping 3 days I told him I could not give him a certificate. Mr. Fred A. Wells, of Plymouth, then took the school, and at the time of making this report it has several weeks more to keep. The first term there were 16 pupils, average daily attendance, 14; Studying reading, 16; spelling, 16; penmanship, 16; arithmetic, 15; geography, 9; grammar, 5; composition, 7; algebra, 1. Roll of honor: Clarence E. Brown, Lulu M. Heath, Inez I. Heath, Leon A. Woodman. No. of visits by parents and others, 1. Wages of teacher per month, \$20; including board, \$——not given. Mr. Wells has kept this school before and has taught 17 terms since, some of them having 50 pupils. I have not been into his school yet, but suppose he is a number one teacher. He has \$16 per month. It seems to me that this school was put off rather late, but that is for the district and not me to decide. Whole amount of school money, \$78.79. Mrs. John Brown, Prudential Committee.

DISTRICT No. 2

One term of 11 weeks, commencing April 21, under the instruction of Miss ALICE B. AMES, of Ashland. It was her first term of teaching. The school was kept at the Cumming's house, a good room being very generously furnished, free to the district, by Geo. W. Armstrong, Esq. I visited the school at the commencement and close. I think it was a very good

school, better than I had reason to expect. The pupils were all young. Order good. Whole number of pupils, 8; average daily attendance, 6. Studying reading, 8; spelling, 8; penmanship, 6; arithmetic, 6; geography, 4; grammar, 1. No names on the roll of honor; there are too many absent and tardy marks in the register. No. of children in the district between the ages of 5 and 15 attending no school, 1. No. of visits by parents and others, 7. Wages of teacher per month, \$8; including board, \$11.40; whole amount of school money, \$33.37. Money unexpended, \$2.02. Mrs. James B. Hughes, Prudential Committee.

DISTRICT No. 3.

Two terms of school. The first term of 8 weeks began May 5. Miss MINNIE F. CHANDLER, of Plymouth, teacher. I think it was her second term. She is a very pleasant teacher and while not wishing to find any great fault I must say that I was not impressed with the idea that all had been accomplished that should have been. I visited the school at the commencement and close. The order was excellent. Whole number of pupils, 9; average daily attendance not put down. Studying reading, 9; spelling, 9; penmanship, 8; arithmetic, 8; geography, 5; grammar, 3; history, 3; composition, 3; physiology, 1. Roll of honor: Mary E. Batchelder, Sadie H. Batchelder, Fred R. Pillsbury. Number of visits by parents and others 13. Wages of teacher per month, \$10. Board given.

The second term of 11 weeks began Oct. 20, with Miss M. CORA CLARK, of Plymouth, teacher. This was her second school. Miss Clark is a graduate of the State Normal School and teaches by their methods of instructions. Those that did not like that method I presume would not like her and those that did like it would like her. She is a pleasant, earnest, faithful teacher and I am confident that she expended a great deal of earnest labor upon this term. The pupils did not show that so much work had been done from the text-books as usual, but the teacher used her head for one (and I am of the opinion that it was a very good one), and instructed largely from it. A great

deal of work was done on the board and paper, such as drawing maps, diagrams, etc. The pupils were made to think and reason for themselves, to know why a thing was so, and to tell all there was to tell about it. Every thing was very thorough. I visited the school at the commencement and close, the order was excellent. Whole number of pupils, 16; average daily attendance, 14.6. Studying reading, 16; spelling, 17; penmanship, 16; arithmetic, 12; geography, 10; grammar, 5; history, 5; composition, 9; drawing, 13; physiology, 10. Roll of honor: Abbie F. Batchelder, Sadie H. Batchelder, Fred R. Pillsbury. Mary E. Fletcher, Charlie L. Small, tardy once each. Too many absent and tardy marks on the register this term. Number of visits by parents and others, 16. Wages of teacher per month, \$16; board and wood amounting to \$45 given by the district. Whole amount of school money, \$59.32. David S. Batchelder, Prudential Committee.

DISTRICT No. 5.

There was one term of 12 weeks, commencing August 18, taught by Miss GRACE M. BOYCE, of Penacook. This was her first school, but she has got the metal to make *the* teacher, and if she makes teaching a profession, I predict she will make a brilliant one. If you have a district of "half dead" pupils secure her services, she will put new life into them. She is a good penman. I visited the school at the commencement and close. The pupils with the exception of one are all small. The improvement in all the studies was very marked. The order was excellent. Whole number of pupils, 8; average daily attendance, 7.67. Studying reading, 8; spelling, 7; penmanship, 7; arithmetic, 6; geography, 3; grammar, 1; vocal music, 8; algebra, 1. Roll of honor: George C. Clough, Edith M. Fifield, Edwin A. Fifield, George H. Wheeler. No. of visits by parents and others, 10. Wages of teacher per month, \$10; including board, \$15.87. Whole amount of school money, \$47.86. J. E. S. Fifield, Prudential Committee.

DISTRICT No. 7.

One term of 13 weeks, commencing Sept. 1, taught by Miss

SADIE E. SHAW, of Salisbury, a teacher of experience. Miss Shaw is a thorough disciplinarian. I never saw the order so good in this school. I visited the school at the commencement and close. The examination at the close was good. Whole number of pupils, 10; average attendance, 10. Studying reading, 10; spelling, 10; penmanship, 9; arithmetic, 8; geography, 8; grammar, 2; history, 2. Roll of honor: Flora D. Smith, Annie C. Brown, Harry B. Clement, Claude H. Brown, Charlie M. Drake. Number of visits by parents and others, 42. Wages of teacher per month, \$12; including board, \$20. Whole amount of school money, \$69.64. John Smith, Prudential Committee. I think \$50 has been expended on the school-house this year.

DISTRICT No. 8.

Two terms of school, both taught by Miss MARY A. MORRILL, of this town, who is too well known to need any comment from me. The first term of 6 weeks began Aug. 11. Whole number of pupils, 15; average daily attendance, 14; Studying reading, 15; spelling, 15; penmanship, 13; arithmetic, 12; geography, 4; grammar, 6; composition, 6; book-keeping, 4; algebra, 2. Roll of honor: Agnes M. Dolloff, Alice M. Tilton, Cora Marston, Alfred H. Tilton, Frank H. Tilton, Emery Flanders, Harrice Hammond, Elmer Hammond. Number of visits by parents and others, 14. Wages of teacher per month, \$16; including board, \$23.

The second term of 9 weeks began Oct. 6. I visited the first term at the commencement, and this term at the close. The examination of most of the pupils was excellent. There are some fine scholars in this school and they showed that a *good work* had been done, and I think if the parents had been present they could say "amen" to my words. Miss Morrill is a good penman. Order excellent. Whole number of pupils, 14; average daily attendance, 13. Studying reading, 14; spelling, 14; penmanship, 13; arithmetic, 13; geography, 3; grammar, 2; composition, 4; physiology, 2; book-keeping, 3. Roll of honor: Agnes M. Dolloff, Alice M. Tilton, Alfred H. Tilton, Frank H. Tilton, Harrice Hammond, Eddie B. Whittemore. Number of visits by parents and others, 14. Wage

of teacher per month, \$20; including board, \$27. Whole amount of school money, \$96.24. Lorenzo Flanders, Prudential Committee.

DISTRICT No. 9.

One term of 8 weeks, commencing Aug. 11, taught by Mr. GEORGE W. GILMAN, of North Sanbornton, the same teacher as last year. The school was small and I think the teacher accomplished all that could be expected. I visited the school at the commencement and close. Order excellent. Whole number of pupils, 4; average daily attendance, 1.2. Studying reading, 4; spelling, 4; penmanship, 4; arithmetic, 3; geography, 2; grammar, 1; composition, 1. Roll of honor: Winfred Gilpatric. Number of visits by parents and others, 16. Wages of teacher per month, \$10; including board, \$16. Whole amount of school money, \$30.46. Robert B. Gilpatric, Prudential Committee.

DISTRICT No. 10.

One term of 7 weeks, commencing Aug. 4, taught by Miss HELEN M. SMITH, of this town. This was her first school. I visited the school at the commencement, but was not notified of the close. Miss Smith is a good scholar, and I presume she did well by the three young pupils attending. Order at the commencement, excellent. Whole number of pupils, 3; average daily attendance, 3. Studying reading, 3; spelling, 3; penmanship, 2; arithmetic, 2; geography, 2. Roll of honor: Archie B Nichols. Number of visits by parents and others, 5. Wages of teacher per month, \$10; board given by A. W. Nichols. Contributed to prolong the school, \$0.10. Whole amount of school money, \$17.40. Arthur W. Nichols, Prudential Committee.

UNION DISTRICT No. 1. (Bridgewater and Plymouth.)

One term of 12 weeks commencing Sept. 1, taught by Miss MARY E. CURRIER, of Ashland. The register was returned to me but partially filled out, and I can give no information from it. If the teacher and Prudential Committee could have heard a few of the remarks I made on commencing the report of this school, in regard to the register, they might have thought them

more forcible than eloquent. I visited the school at the commencement and close. I cannot report it as a satisfactory school to me, and will pass it without further comment. Order fair. There were 8 pupils present at commencement, and 9 at close of school. Wages of teacher per month, \$10; including board, \$——. Whole amount of school money from this town, \$25.24. George W. Martin, Prudential Committee.

In looking over the reports of the schools, in the several districts, you will see that in a few instances the teachers have not been up to the proper standard, but a large majority of them are reported as competent and faithful to their duties. Again let me impress upon your minds the importance of the greatest caution in the selection of teachers; many of our districts are small and have but little money. The Prudential Committee thinks he must hire the person that will take the school for the least pay, in order to make it as long as possible. The best teachers can have plenty of schools at good pay, and it is always poor ones or beginners that work cheap, please remember this. You may hire a teacher for \$2.50 per week, and have ten weeks of school. I will hire one for \$5 per week and have 5 weeks of school, and show you far better improvement in the pupils, than you can of 10 weeks school. You may think this rather exaggerated, but I think there is that much difference in teachers. I think teachers should receive a training aside from an education, in order to understand best how to impart knowledge to their pupils. There is more in this than the average parent thinks of, perhaps. The state has established and supports a Normal School for the special training of persons for teachers. Much has been said of this method of teaching, and in general it has been derided and laughed at, and I confess that, until this year, I have not been very favorably impressed with it. We have had one of its graduates in No. 3 this year as teacher and, after giving it careful thought, I must say that, for small pupils, I have never seen her method of instruction equalled. Much of the time of the larger pupils which is usually spent upon the text-book, was transferred

to the black board and paper, and with the right teacher, I think this is not a bad, but a good idea.

By a law of the State, a teachers' institute must be held at least once a year in each County. These institutes are *especially designed for the benefit of teachers*, at which they may meet and discuss their experiences, new methods of instruction, etc. Some of the most learned and able educators of the State are present, and take part in these meetings, and it would seem strange to me if our teachers could not gain new and useful ideas by attending them. In short the successful teacher must climb to the topmost round, with their whole heart and soul in their profession. They are the ones we must have in the school-room, and not the laggard whose only desire is to pass away the time and draw their pay.

I have not yet changed my mind in regard to text-books, which I expressed four years ago, and I still think that there should be a uniformity of books in our district schools, throughout the State. In No. 8 there was a nice class in Meservey's book-keeping; this I think is a very important study, of course a Commercial College is the best place to acquire it, but enough can be learned in district schools to keep simple accounts, if nothing more.

In conclusion let me say to you in brief, parents do all you can to educate your children. Those who can and neglect to commit a sin, and are not worthy to be parents. Whole number of scholars of this town, not less than five years of age, who have attended school for two weeks or more, 83; number of children between five and fifteen who have attended no school during the year, 1; number of scholars between the ages of five and fifteen as reported by the selectmen, 69;—37 boys and 32 girls. Whole amount of school money last year, \$468.08; this year, \$458.32.

JOHN L. MORRISON, S. S. Committee.



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